

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A valve for use with a control line disposed in a wellbore, the valve comprising:
 - a shuttle valve functionally connected to the control line;
 - the shuttle valve being adapted to enable pressure transfer through the control line from both a downhole and an uphole direction during normal operating conditions; and
 - the shuttle valve being adapted to seal the control line when a pressure spike occurs from the downhole direction.
2. (Original) The valve of claim 1, wherein the pressure spike comprises a blow-out in the wellbore.
3. (Original) The valve of claim 1, wherein the shuttle valve is disposed in the control line.
4. (Original) The valve of claim 1, wherein the shuttle valve is located in a housing.
5. (Original) The valve of claim 4, wherein the housing is a joint that connects two tubing pieces together.
6. (Original) The valve of claim 1, wherein the control line is functionally connected to a downhole tool.
7. (Original) The valve of claim 6, wherein the downhole tool comprises a valve, a packer or a perforating gun.
8. (Original) The valve of claim 1, wherein the shuttle valve comprises a shuttle slidably disposed within an orifice located on a constrictor in the housing.

9. (Original) The valve of claim 8, wherein the constrictor includes at least one opening to allow fluid flow therethrough.

10. (Original) The valve of claim 9, wherein the shuttle is movable between a first position, in which a first shuttle surface seals against a first housing surface to prevent flow of fluids from the downhole direction, and a second position, in which a second shuttle surface seals against a second housing surface to prevent flow of fluids from the uphole direction.

11. (Original) The valve of claim 10, further comprising:
two springs;
wherein each spring provides a counter-force to one of the sliding movement directions of the shuttle;

so that the first position is reached when the counter-force of one spring is exceeded by the pressure from the downhole direction and the second position is reached when the counter-force of the other spring is exceeded by the pressure from the uphole direction.

12. (Original) The valve of claim 8, further comprising at least one spring providing a counter-force to the sliding movement of the shuttle in one direction.

13. (Original) The valve of claim 12, further comprising two springs, each spring providing a counter-force to one of the sliding movement directions of the shuttle.

14. (Original) The valve of claim 1, wherein the shuttle valve comprises a shuttle slidingly disposed within a cavity in the housing and the shuttle transfers pressure within the control line.

15. (Original) The valve of claim 14, wherein the shuttle includes at least one dynamic seal to enable a sealing and sliding movement of the shuttle against the cavity.

16. (Original) The valve of claim 14, wherein the shuttle is movable between two normal operating positions, a first position in which a first volume remains in the cavity adjacent the first end of the shuttle and a second position in which a second volume remains in the cavity adjacent the second end of the shuttle.

17. (Original) The valve of claim 16, wherein the shuttle includes a downhole pressure spike position wherein the second shuttle end abuts the uphole surface of the cavity and does not allow pressure communication from the downhole direction.

18. (Original) The valve of claim 14, further comprising:
a passageway through the shuttle; and
a rupture disk selectively prohibiting flow through the passageway.

19. (Original) The valve of claim 18, wherein the rupture disk is ruptured by pressure from the uphole direction thereby allowing fluid communication through the passageway.

20. (Currently amended) A system for preventing blow-outs in a wellbore including a control line, the system comprising:
a safety valve adapted to seal a tubing disposed in the wellbore in case of a blow-out;
a wellhead adapted to seal an annulus between the tubing and the wellbore in case of a blow-out; and
a valve adapted to automatically seal the control line in case of a blow-out, wherein the valve enables pressure transfer through the control line from both a downhole and an uphole direction during normal operating conditions.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the valve comprises a shuttle valve.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the shuttle valve is located in a housing.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the housing is a joint that connects two tubing pieces together.
24. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the control line is functionally connected to a downhole tool.
25. (Original) The system of claim 24, wherein the control line is used to hydraulically actuate the downhole tool.
26. (Original) The system of claim 24, wherein the downhole tool comprises a valve, a packer or a perforating gun.
27. (Currently amended) A method for preventing blow-outs in a wellbore including a control line, the method comprising:
sealing a tubing in the wellbore with a safety valve in case of a blow-out;
sealing an annulus between the tubing and the wellbore with a wellhead in case of a blow-out;
sealing the control line with a valve in case of a blow-out, the sealing being accomplished automatically with the pressure of the blow-out; and
transferring pressure through the valve and control line from both a downhole and an uphole direction during normal operating conditions.
28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the transferring step comprises shuttling the valve in the uphole and downhole directions depending on the direction of the higher pressure.
29. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising functionally connecting the control line to a downhole tool.
30. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising hydraulically actuating the downhole tool through the control line.

31. (Original) The method of claim 28, further comprising biasing the shuttling movement of the valve in at least one direction.
32. (Original) The method of claim 31, further comprising biasing the shuttling movement of the valve in both the downhole and uphole directions.
33. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the biasing step comprises providing two springs, each spring providing a counter-force to one of the sliding movement directions of the shuttle.
34. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the biasing step comprises providing excess volume in a cavity that houses the shuttle.
35. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising providing a shuttle sealingly slidingly disposed within a cavity in a housing.
36. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the shuttle prevents fluid communication in the control line.
37. (Original) The method of claim 36, further comprising rupturing a disk in the shuttle to enable fluid communication across the shuttle through a passageway in the shuttle.
38. (Currently amended) A barrier for use with a control line disposed in a wellbore, the barrier comprising:
a valve functionally connected to the control line;
the valve being adapted to enable pressure transfer through the control line from both a downhole and an uphole direction during normal operating conditions; and
the valve being adapted to automatically seal the control line when a pressure spike occurs from the downhole direction.

39. (Currently amended) A method for preventing blow-outs in a wellbore including a control line, the method comprising:

sealing the control line with a valve in case of a blow-out by utilizing the pressure resulting from the blow-out; and

transferring pressure through the valve and control line from both a downhole and an uphole direction during normal operating conditions.

40. (Original) A system for preventing blow-outs in a wellbore including a control line, the system comprising:

at least two valves adapted to seal the control line in case of a blow-out, wherein each of the valves enables pressure transfer through the control line from both a downhole and an uphole direction during normal operating conditions;

wherein the control line is used to hydraulically actuate at least two downhole tool; and

wherein the at least two valves are adapted to enable the selective actuation of the lease two downhole tools.

41. (Original) The system of claim 40, wherein:

each of the valves includes at least one spring providing a counterforce to a movement of the valve; and

wherein the springs of the valves are rated to enable the selective actuation of the at least two downhole tools.